VZCZCXRO7202 OO RUEHCHI RUEHCN RUEHDT RUEHHM DE RUEHJA #2275 3510815 ZNR UUUUU ZZH O 160815Z DEC 08 FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0995 INFO RUEHZS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS PRIORITY RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 7849 RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 3419 RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 1513 RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 1500 RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 2522 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 2862 RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 3343 RUEHHK/AMCONSUL HONG KONG 3172 RUEHPT/AMCONSUL PERTH 1346 RHMFIUU/BUMED WASHINGTON DC RHHJJPI/USPACOM HONOLULU HI RHHJJPI/PACOM IDHS HONOLULU HI RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC RUENAAA/SECNAV WASHDC RUEAWJB/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC RULSAAV/NAVMEDRSCHCEN SILVER SPRING MD RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS JAKARTA 002275

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

DEPT FOR P, EAP, EAP/MTS, EAP/MLS, EAP/RSP, G/AIAG, OES/IHA, L, L/DL FOR DICKERSON
USAID FOR ANE/CLEMENTS AND GH/CARROLL
DEPT PASS TO HHS/WSTEIGER/ABHAT/MSTLOUIS AND HHS/NIH
DEPT PASS TO USDA/FAS/OSTA BRANT, ROSENBLUM
DOJ FOR OFL/HOLLIS
DOJ FOR OFL/HERRUP
GENEVA FOR WHO/HOHMAN
NSC FOR E.PHU
SECDEF FOR USDP/ISA/APSA D.WALTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PGOV TBIO KFLU KLIG ID

SUBJECT: AVIAN INFLUENZA LAWSUIT AGAINST USG: CASE DISMISSED

REF: JAKARTA 1968 AND PREVIOUS

- 11. (SBU) This message is Sensitive but Unclassified -- Please handle accordingly.
- 12. (SBU) SUMMARY: The avian influenza-related lawsuit against the USG and World Health Organization (WHO) has been dismissed. The Central Jakarta District Court cited the plaintiff's lack of seriousness and refusal to pay administrative court fees as the reasons for its decision. This is a welcome outcome that removes a potentially serious irritant to our bilateral relationship. END SUMMARY.
- 13. (SBU) CASE DISMISSED: On December 15, Mission received a copy of the Central Jakarta District Court's decision to remove the lawsuit against the USG and the WHO from the court's register of cases. The court acted on the grounds of lack of "seriousness" by the plaintiff and the plaintiff's refusal to pay for administrative court fees.
- 14. (SBU) On the latter point, the attorneys for the plaintiff were notified on July 21 and September 9 that the plaintiff must deposit additional funds in a court account to cover administrative fees. On November 6, the court notified the plaintiff that if additional funds were not forthcoming, the case would be dismissed after 30 days. In the decision, the Chief Judge determined that because the plaintiff was unwilling to deposit additional funds to cover court costs, the plaintiff was not interested in pursuing the case further.

- 15. (SBU) DISCREPANCY IN DECISION DATE: There is some question about the date of dismissal. According to the decision, the case was removed from the register on November 7, 2008. The discrepancy between the date of the decision and the date in December when the decision was mailed to Mission is likely due to internal court processing, as is often the case with Indonesian courts.
- 16. (SBU) NO MEDIA ATTENTION: There was no press coverage of the court proceedings or of the dismissal.
- 17. (SBU) A WELCOME OUTCOME: This is a welcome outcome that removes a potentially serious irritant to our bilateral relationship. Mission would like to thank the Department of Justice Office of Foreign Litigation for its assistance with this case.

HUME